

to a 30-foot pile of rubble.

See BEIRUT, A19, Col. 1

Campaign of Attrition

The bombing massacre is seen in Beirut as part of an escalating war of attrition aimed at American forces and policy in the Middle East. The United States now faces a choice on the role of its Marines, who risk being dragged deeper into Lebanon's continuing civil war.

Details on Page A13

yesterday's bomb blast at a four-story battalion center near the Beirut airport.

25-Mile Zone to Be Claimed Nicaragua to Extend Coastal Limit

By Robert J. McCartney
Washington Post Foreign Service

MANAGUA, Nicaragua, Oct. 23—Nicaragua plans to declare a 25-mile security zone off both its coasts and move thousands of people away from vulnerable fuel storage tanks in the nation's largest port in response to recent attacks by anti-Sandinista counter-revolutionary guerrillas, government officials said today.

The steps reflect concern over the U.S.-backed rebels' success at staging raids on coastal facilities from the sea. The security zone could lead to tensions between Nicaragua and the United States, which reportedly still has warships in waters off the Honduran coast, north of Nicaragua.

Under the naval and air security zone proposed by the junta, foreign warplanes or warships would have to ask permission 15 days in advance before coming within 25 miles of Nicaragua's coastline. Civilian craft

would have to seek permission a week in advance.

While the United States technically only respects a three-mile coastal limit, it has in practice kept ships more than 12 miles from Nicaragua's coasts, a U.S. Embassy spokesman said.

The United States or other countries with ships in the area might object to the 25-mile zone. A flotilla of U.S. warships was dispatched to waters near Nicaragua's Caribbean and Pacific coasts last summer in a show of force coinciding with U.S. military maneuvers in neighboring Honduras.

The Nicaraguan plan, outlined in the pro-government newspaper *Nuevo Diario*, does not explicitly threaten to attack ships or warplanes that infringe upon the 25-mile limit.

See NICARAGUA, A5, Col. 1

Grenada goes on military alert and predicts U.S. invasion. Page A4

ington, filling in for the Riggins, rushed for a 7 yards as the Redskins' defense in for praise for ted play. Page B1

nder Rod Dixon, com-second marathon of his 193 runners in the New on, doing the 26-mile, in 2 hours, 8 minutes, Grete Waitz of Norway en's race. Page B1

Community foreign ed at an informal meet-viet efforts to split the s and its European allies e of medium-range mis-ent have failed. Page A8

the U.S. Supreme Court, the on Administration is sched-esting new flight paths known plan.

to see if one of National's most social costs—noise—can be quitably among area residents.

the philosophy in force for decades that it is best to focus noise on the comparatively few residents of the Potomac corridor and to leave other areas noise-free.

"Instead of arguing whether scatter is a good or a bad idea, we'll finally find out," said Eric Bernthal, president of the Coalition

pressure to reduce traffic at National, in favor of Dulles and Baltimore-Washington International airports.

But the many opponents argue that the test is a thoroughly bad idea that will build momentum toward adopting it permanently. The new paths will destroy peace and quiet in currently noise-free neighborhoods, and

Nicaragua to Create 25-Mile Offshore Security Zone

NICARAGUA, From A1

Instead, it provides for fines of up to \$75,000 if the vessel or plane resists authorities seeking to expel it.

To enforce the zone, Nicaragua would have to rely on its small Navy, made up mostly of small patrol boats.

The Council of State, or national legislature, is scheduled to begin considering the plan Wednesday. It is dominated by the Sandinistas and approval is considered routine.

The Sandinista government also began this weekend to promote a peace proposal it had presented in Washington Thursday aimed at negotiating a halt in guerrilla attacks. Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the ruling revolutionary junta, sounded conciliatory when asked to comment on a U.S. statement calling the Nicaraguan proposals "deficient."

"We hope that they really will study them and plan political solutions," Ortega said yesterday.

The progovernment media had given relatively little attention to the peace proposals Thursday and Friday, but the official newspaper of the ruling Sandinista front today ran a long editorial stressing Nicaragua's willingness to negotiate.

In another development, Ortega announced that repairs were almost complete on an underwater pipeline that was sabotaged Oct. 14 at a key oil-receiving terminal. He said that negotiations are underway to rent a tanker to deliver oil after Exxon Corp. 10 days ago stopped providing tankers to carry oil to Nicaragua because of safety considerations.

One diplomatic source said a tanker has already been leased and is expected to arrive in early November. Tankers docking at the port of Puerto Sandino provide more than three-quarters of the nation's petroleum needs, and the government called on citizens to expect tighter fuel rations after Exxon canceled its shipments. The U.S. corporation acted after guerrillas of the CIA-funded Nicaraguan Democratic Force threatened to attack any tankers supplying Nicaragua.

The government also is planning to evacuate about 3,000 people from their homes around fuel tanks in the Pacific port of Corinto before Nov. 10, officials said. They would live in new homes being constructed less than 10 miles away in the town of El Realejo.

The entire city of Corinto, with a population of close to 25,000, was evacuated Oct. 10 when guerrillas in a motor boat fired on the fuel tanks and started a huge fire that took a day and a half to

extinguish. Nicaragua also has suffered attacks by small aircraft in the past six weeks, but the speed boat raid caused more damage.

Ortega, who visited Corinto yesterday, said the government was considering moving the port's entire population because of the danger of new attacks.

"We have to get those people out of there because if we don't, President Reagan will kill them," Ortega said. He added that the move would be in stages, and it was unclear how long the government would need to find new homes for all the residents of the nation's major port.

The raid on Corinto was part of a series of attacks on Nicaragua's oil facilities. There have been two raids on the underwater pipeline at Puerto Sandino south of Corinto, and another attack on tanks at the Caribbean port of Benjamin Zeladon. The Puerto Sandino underwater pipeline carries crude oil from moored tankers to onshore storage tanks from which the oil later is pumped to a Managua refinery. Damage in the second attack was slight and easy to repair, diplomatic sources said.

The government has not outlined specific new fuel rationing measures, although it has encouraged citizens to consider using bicycles for transportation in case of a serious gasoline shortage.

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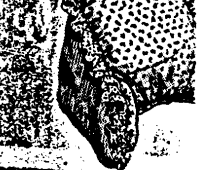
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